

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 220600
ORIGIN IO-14

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NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 SAA-01
SES-02 SSM-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /132 R

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APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN
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NEA/ARN:NHOWELL

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P R 301846Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAKAR PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SUVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T STATE 220600

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNSC, NP, UN, LE, FR, IS, SY, NO, FJ, EI, IR,

SUBJECT: UNIFIL PERFORMANCE AND RENEWAL

1. THIS IS THE FIRST OF PERIODIC REPORTS DEPART-
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SHARE OUR PERCEPTIONS OF THE LEBANESE SITUATION WITH HOST-
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POSSIBLE MISGIVINGS AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS IN CAPITALS DURING
KEY PERIOD LEADING UP TO RENEWAL OF UNIFIL MANDATE NO
LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 19.

2. AS BACKGROUND, POSTS SHOULD RECALL THAT UNIFIL'S

MANDATE CITES THREE OBJECTIVES:

-- RESTORATION OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY TO THE SOUTH

-- TO CONFIRM WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES FROM LEBANON

-- RESTORATION OF LEBANESE SOVEREIGNTY IN THE SOUTH.

UNIFIL HAS BEEN HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL IN ACHIEVING THE FIRST TWO GOALS OF ITS MANDATE. UNFORTUNATELY, DUE TO RESISTANCE FROM CHRISTIAN MILITIAS, UNIFIL HAS BEEN UNABLE

TO ATTAIN THE MANDATE'S THIRD OBJECTIVE.

3. DRAWING ON THAT BACKGROUND, AND IF ADDRESSEES FEEL IT WOULD BE OF INTEREST TO THEIR HOST GOVERNMENTS, ADDRESSEES SHOULD COMMENT AS FOLLOWS:

-- AS UNIFIL MANDATE RENEWAL APPROACHES, WE WOULD LIKE TO SHARE SOME THOUGHTS ON LEBANON, UNIFIL'S PERFORMANCE, AND UNIFIL RENEWAL WITH TROOP-CONTRIBUTING COUNTRIES.

-- THE DANGEROUS AND UNSTABLE SECURITY SITUATION IN BEIRUT AND ELSEWHERE IN NORTHERN LEBANON PRE-OCCUPIES THE GOL, AND ADDS TO THE DIFFICULTY OF REASSERTING EFFECTIVE
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LEBANESE SOVEREIGNTY IN THE SOUTH, THUS AFFECTING THE THIRD PART OF THE UNIFIL MANDATE. IN THE LONG RUN, FAILURE TO MAKE PROGRESS IN THIS RESPECT COULD HAMPER UNIFIL'S EFFECTIVENESS IN DEALING WITH THE CONTENDING PARTIES IN SOUTHERN LEBANON.

-- DESPITE THESE PROBLEMS, UNIFIL'S PERFORMANCE IN THE SOUTH HAS TO DATE BEEN EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL. UNIFIL HAS SEPARATED THE CONTENDING PARTIES AND HAS NEGOTIATED AN ACCEPTABLE MODUS VIVENDI WHICH HAS MINIMIZED VIOLENCE IN THE AREA GENERALLY. MORE IMPORTANTLY, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A DECADE, THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE INHABITANTS OF SOUTH LEBANON ARE LEADING PEACEFUL, NORMAL LIVES. FOR THIS THE USG GIVES FULL CREDIT TO THE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE OF THE CONTRIBUTOR COUNTRIES' CONTINGENTS.

-- UNIFIL HAS ENJOYED INITIAL SUCCESS IN EFFORTS TO EXTEND ITS PRESENCE THROUGHOUT THE AREA SOUTH OF THE LITANI RIVER. A MAJOR COMPLICATION AT PRESENT CONTINUES TO BE LEBANESE ARMED FORCES' INABILITY TO MOVE INTO THE UNIFIL AREA BECAUSE OF OPPOSITION FROM CHRISTIAN MILITIAS.

-- SINCE PART OF UNIFIL'S MANDATE IS TO RETURN THE AREA
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PAGE 01 STATE 220600
ORIGIN NEA-04

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S E C R E T STATE 220600

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 220600 ACTION DAKAR DUBLIN

KATHMANDU LAGOS OSLO SUVA TEHRAN INFO BEIRUT JERUSALEM
TEL AVIV DAMASCUS PARIS 30 AUG 78.

QUOTE: S E C R E T STATE 220600

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NOTE BY OC/T: ORIGINAL DISTRIBUTION: IO/ISO,REBU,POLI,SIG,ACDA,
TRSE,SES,SAA,MCT,HA,,

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PAGE 01 STATE 220600
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AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T STATE 220600

FOL STATE 220600 SENT INFO AMMAN AUG 30, 1978

QUOTE S E C R E T STATE 220600

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 220600 ACTION DAKAR DUBLIN
KATHMANDU LAGOS OSLO SUVA TEHRAN INFO BEIRUT JERUSALEM
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ORIG DIST: IO/REBU,POLI,SIG,ACDA,TRSE,SES,SAA,MCT,HA

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 30 aug 1978
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To: DAKAR DUBLIN MULTIPLE
Type: TE
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